

Fact Sheet No. 5

Ross Complex Superfund Site

Bonneville
POWER ADMINISTRATION

M A R C H 1 9 9 1

What's happening at the Ross Superfund Site?

Over a year ago, November 1989, Bonneville Power Administration's, (BPA) Ross Complex was listed as a Superfund Site. This meant that hazardous wastes have been found at the Complex. They proved to be potentially serious enough to merit special attention. Fact Sheet No. 4 was distributed last July. This fact sheet reviews events from November 1989 to date, anticipating the adoption of a work plan for actual field investigations and analysis.

Chronology of Events

1986

Preliminary Assessment. Records were searched, past employees interviewed, sample holes drilled, soils tested to determine if a hazardous waste problem existed at Ross.

November 1989

National Priorities List. Ross was found to have hazardous waste in soils and chlorinated solvents in the ground water at the site.

May 1990

Federal Facilities Agreement. (BPA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Washington State Department of Ecology

(WDOE) signed an agreement with a procedure and timeline to clean up the site.

May 15, 1990

Work Plan for the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS). A plan was submitted to EPA and WDOE outlining how hazardous waste would be investigated to determine how to best clean it up.

May 22, 1990

Public Meeting. A meeting was held at the Ross Complex. Thirty-three people attended, asked questions and shared their concerns about the hazardous waste problem. (See Fact Sheet No. 4)

October 17, 1990

Work Plan, second draft, submitted to EPA and WDOE.

February 7, 1991

Work Plan, final draft, submitted to EPA and WDOE.

Mid March 1991

Work Plan tentatively approved pending minor revisions and schedule adjustments.

The Work Plan for the Ross Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study

The work plan is a very detailed document with about 1100 pages. It specifies how soils and water are to be sampled, types of analysis to be

performed, monitoring to be done and risks analyzed.

The work plan has changed since the original draft was written a year ago. It now covers:

- More potential waste areas identified for sampling, based on public comments during the public meeting last May.
- Checking for additional contaminants, based on the new State Model Toxics Control Act and new EPA guidelines.
- More monitoring wells, soil borings, and stream and sediment samples to be done.
- More sensitive detection levels for hazardous waste.

Final stages of negotiating the work plan are underway with BPA, EPA and WDOE. When the plan is signed, you may see work beginning at the site. We will be sending you Fact Sheet No. 6 in the near future, describing what the work includes.

If you have questions please contact:

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